

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY (Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

Applicant's or agent's file reference VEP 30 PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/EP2004/012293	International filing date (day/month/year) 29 October 2004 (29.10.2004)	Priority date (day/month/year) 04 November 2003 (04.11.2003)	
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237			
Applicant VEKA AG			

1. This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 bis.1(a).

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 8 sheets, including this cover sheet.

 In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application

4. The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44bis .2).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes	Date of issuance of this report 19 September 2006 (19.09.2006) Authorized officer
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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

TRANSLATION

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

To:

Date of mailing (day/month/year)	See form PCT/ISA/210
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Applicant's or agent's file reference
VEP 30 PCT

FOR FURTHER ACTION
See paragraph 2 below

International application No. PCT/EP2004/012293	International filing date (day/month/year) 29.10.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 04.11.2003
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International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC
B29C67/00, B29C47/00, B29C44/56

Applicant
VEKA AG

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability, citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☒ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/EP

Authorized officer

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WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/012293

Box No. I

Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language _____ which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
☐ a sequence listing
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
☐ in written format
☐ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
☐ contained in the international application as filed.
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

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WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/012293

Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted:

- 1 Independent claim 5 has not been drafted in the two-part form defined by PCT Rule 6.3(b). However, in the present case the two-part form would appear to be appropriate. Accordingly, the features known in combination from the prior art (D1) should have been placed in the preamble (PCT Rule 6.3(b)(i)) and the remaining features specified in the characterizing part (PCT Rule 6.3(b)(ii)).
- 2 Contrary to PCT Rule 5.1(a)(ii), the description does not cite D1 or indicate the relevant prior art disclosed therein.
- 3 Claims 15 and 16 contain identical features. Therefore, one of these claims appears to be superfluous.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/012293

Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability, citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	2, 7, 9, 10, 12-14, 18, 19	YES
	Claims	1, 3-6, 8, 11, 15, 16, 17, 20	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	1-20	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-20	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations:

- 1 This report makes reference to the following document:

D1: EP 0 303 576 A

- 2 D1 discloses (the references in parentheses are to this document):

- a process for producing a thermoplastics plate with at least one polished lateral edge (see abstract and figures) by:
 - o mixing a thermoplastic in an extruder,
 - o extruding the plastic using a slot die to give a flat plastics web,
 - o cooling and calibrating the plastics web on a calender roll couple,
 - o taking off the plastics web (implicitly disclosed; see also column 1, lines 4-15);
- the lateral edge of the plastics web is heated after calibration to at least

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/012293

Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability, citations and explanations supporting such statement

the peripheral surface areas are maintained at a temperature below the softening point by cooling (see column 4, line 59 to column 5, line 18);

- a polishing device for a lateral edge of a thermoplastics plate with a guiding groove with at least one heating means in the front face and with at least one cooling means in each of the opposing lateral faces (see figures 6-8 and column 4, line 59 to column 5, line 18), wherein
- a plastics plate which is guidable in the guiding groove abuts the front area (with its cutting edge) and the lateral faces (with its peripheral surface areas) (see figures 6-8);
- edge machining system for a lateral edge of a thermoplastics plate consisting of a polishing device and a guide device, said guide device consisting of at least:
 - o one movable slide for receiving at least one plastics plate,
 - o at least one detent means for fixing the plastics plate on the slide, and
 - o a drive device for displacing the slide relative to the smoothing device

(see figures).

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/012293

Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability, citations and explanations supporting such statement

2.1 INDEPENDENT CLAIM 1

D1 therefore discloses all the features indicated in independent claim 1. Consequently, the subject matter of this claim lacks novelty (PCT Article 33(2)).

2.2 DEPENDENT CLAIMS 2-4

Claims 2-4 do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer back, meet the PCT requirements for novelty (claims 3 and 4, PCT Article 33(2)) and inventive step (claim 2, PCT Article 33(3)).

2.3 INDEPENDENT CLAIM 5

D1 therefore discloses all the features indicated in independent claim 5. Consequently, the subject matter of this claim lacks novelty (PCT Article 33(2)).

2.4 DEPENDENT CLAIMS 6-14

Claims 6-14 do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer back, meet the PCT requirements for novelty (claims 6, 8 and 11, PCT Article 33(2)) and inventive step (claims 7, 9, 10 and 12-14, PCT Article 33(3)).

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/012293

Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statement

2.5 CLAIMS 15-16

D1 therefore discloses all the features indicated in claims 15 and 16. Consequently, the subject matter of these claims lacks novelty (PCT Article 33(2)).

2.6 DEPENDENT CLAIMS 17-20

Claims 17-20 do not contain any features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer back, meet the PCT requirements for novelty (claims 17 and 20, PCT Article 33(2)) and inventive step (claims 18 and 19, PCT Article 33(3)).

3 The industrial applicability of the subject matter of claims 1-20 is evident (PCT Article 33(4)).